



Assessment Guide
Anchor Plan Student Learning Outcome 6
Hope College Assessment Committee

Anchor Plan Student Learning Outcome 6

Understand key tenets of the historic Christian faith.

Assessment Schedule

Artifacts of student work are collected each semester from those courses that are mapped to Anchor Plan Outcome 6. The collected artifacts are assessed for two of the seven key tenets. Assessment for all seven tenets is completed on a two-year cycle.

The results from completed assessments for Outcome 6 are reviewed by the General Education Council in the Fall Semesters of even years.

Assessment Tool

Artifacts of student work are assessed using a Hope-developed rubric with items for assessing 7 key Christian tenets: scripture, God, creation, humanity, Christ, salvation, and church (Attachment A).

Anchor Plan Assessment Target

Eighty percent of assessed artifacts will demonstrate proficiency (3.00 to 3.99 on a 4-point scale) in understanding each of the key tenets of the historic Christian faith.

Assessment Sample and Process

Artifacts to be assessed.

The Anchor Plan Assessment Plan specifies that artifacts from the following courses are used to assess Outcome 6.

Christian Tenets Courses

The number of artifacts assessed is based on annual enrollment in course sections mapped to Outcome 6 and provides a confidence level of at least 95%.

Religion Department faculty determine the specific artifacts to be collected from course sections. As the disciplinary experts, department faculty members are best situated to identify the student work that demonstrates student progress toward the seven key tenets measured by the rubric.

In cases where the course section is also mapped to either Anchor Plan 1 or 4, the same artifact can be used in both assessment processes if it demonstrates student progress toward both outcomes.

Assessment process

At the end of each semester (beginning no later than Spring 2024), faculty members from the Religion Department participate in the assessment of the artifacts collected across that semester. Faculty members are compensated for this work at the rate approved by the Deans' Council for assessment work when this is outside of the 9-month faculty contract.

The Chair of the Religion Department, or another faculty member designated as the department's assessment leader, leads the assessment process. This includes providing guidance to the faculty on using the Christian Tenets rubric and the process for applying the rubric to the student artifacts collected in their course sections. This work is supported by the Director of Assessment and Accreditation as requested.

Department faculty apply the rubric to artifacts collected from their course sections. Their results are then aggregated on a spreadsheet for each tenet assessed in that semester.

In the semester following each assessment, the Religion Department faculty discuss the results. One outcome of this conversation is identifying improvements to improve student progress toward Outcome 6.

A report of the results from each assessment is prepared by the Chair of the Religion Department or the department's assessment leader. By August 1 of each year, assessment reports from the previous academic year (Summer, Fall, Spring) are submitted to the Anchor Plan Assessment Portal and include the aggregate spreadsheets of results for each tenet.

In the Fall Semesters of each even year, these assessment reports are presented to the General Education Council by the General Education Council Religion Director. Reports are also shared with the Assessment Committee and the Deans' Council.

Assessment results, reports, and other documentation and correspondence related to this assessment are maintained by the Director of Assessment and Accreditation within the shared data storage of the Frost Center for Data and Research.

Review of Results

Following a review of results from the Outcome 6 assessment, the General Education Council shares recommendations for improvement in student learning with the Assessment Committee and the Deans' Council.

Rubric for Anchor Plan Outcome 6: Christian Tenets in Anchor Plan (2023 Plan)

Target Score: 3

Outcome	1	2	3	4
1. Students will understand SCRIPTURE as a key tenet of the historic Christian faith.	No understanding of scripture as a key tenet of the historic Christian faith.	Limited understanding of scripture as a key tenet of the historic Christian faith.	Basic understanding of scripture as a key tenet of the historic Christian faith.	Considerable understanding of scripture as a key tenet of the historic Christian faith.
2. Students will understand GOD as a key tenet of the historic Christian faith.	No understanding of God as a key tenet of the historic Christian faith.	Limited understanding of God as a key tenet of the historic Christian faith.	Basic understanding of God as a key tenet of the historic Christian faith	Considerable understanding of God as a key tenet of the historic Christian faith
3. Students will understand CREATION as a key tenet of the historic Christian faith.	No understanding of creation as a key tenet of the historic Christian faith.	Limited understanding of creation as a key tenet of the historic Christian faith.	Basic understanding of creation as a key tenet of the historic Christian faith.	Considerable understanding of creation as a key tenet of the historic Christian faith.
4. Students will understand HUMANITY as a key tenet of the historic Christian faith.	No understanding of humanity as a key tenet of the historic Christian faith.	Limited understanding of humanity as a key tenet of the historic Christian faith.	Basic understanding of humanity as a key tenet of the historic Christian faith	Considerable understanding of humanity as a key tenet of the historic Christian faith
5. Students will understand CHRIST as a key tenet of the historic Christian faith.	No understanding of Christ as a key tenet of the historic Christian faith.	Limited understanding of Christ as a key tenet of the historic Christian faith.	Basic understanding of Christ as a key tenet of the historic Christian faith.	Considerable understanding of Christ as a key tenet of the historic Christian faith.
6. Students will understand SALVATION as a key tenet of the historic Christian faith.	No understanding of salvation as a key tenet of the historic Christian faith.	Limited understanding of salvation as a key tenet of the historic Christian faith.	Basic understanding of salvation as a key tenet of the historic Christian faith	Considerable understanding of salvation as a key tenet of the historic Christian faith
7. Students will understand CHURCH as a key tenet of the historic Christian faith.	No understanding of church as a key tenet of the historic Christian faith.	Limited understanding of church as a key tenet of the historic Christian faith.	Basic understanding of church as a key tenet of the historic Christian faith	Considerable understanding of church as a key tenet of the historic Christian faith

Rubric is modeled on Karen Trimble Alliaume, Maryellen Davis Collett, Susan M. Simonaitis, Lewis University, November 2018